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The monthly Newsletter of the Monongalia Wireless Association
P. O. Box 4263
Morgantown, West Virginia 26504-4263

Vol. XXVII, No. 8 August 2003

Next Meeting

The next meeting of The MWA will be at 7:30 PM in **Room G-83** of the Engineering Science Building of WVU.

WNPB Television Tower Hit By Airplane

The Television tower of WNPB was hit by an airplane on May 22, 2003. The plane struck the tower about 400 feet from the ground. Here is a picture of the point of impact. The Paint has been scraped off the tower by the airplane.

You can see the tower legs were bent by looking down the tower. Look down the top rail of the tower and you will see that it is out of alignment by about 4 inches. The pictures were taken from the ground. The small plane was going north from Clarksburg, where he

refueled, going to Canada. The fog was bad on top of the mountain and the pilot did not see the tower. He was killed in the crash. WNPB officials may light the tower with strobe lights in the future. The editor feels that it is like locking the barn door after the horse has been stolen. The plane struck the tower at about 11:00 in the morning.

Power line noise to increase if the power company can send BroadBand data over the power line

Check out this article and video from the ARRL. You can see and hear what kind of interference we can expect on the HF and lower VHF bands (between 2 and 80 MHz.) if the power companies are allowed to roll-out Broadband over Power Line.

If they do put this thing out there, you had better sell your radios as fast as you can. HF is gone unless you live so far out in the boonies that you don't get electricity!

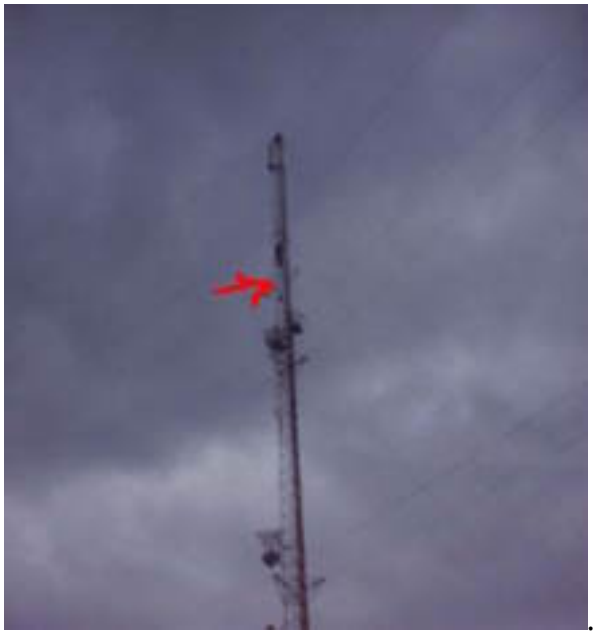
Ed Hare from the ARRL drove to 4 places where the power companies are currently testing BPL and made a recording of what the interference sounds like. Here is a snippet from the article: *"The interference found ranged from moderate to extremely strong,"* Hare said. The video shows the S meter of an HF transceiver holding steady in excess of S9 as the speaker emits a crackling din, which one observer described as sounding like a Geiger counter. Only the very strongest amateur signals broke through on 20 and 15 meters. Hare noted that the field strengths of the various systems all were within FCC Part 15 limits for power line carrier (PLC) devices."

<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2003/08/08
2/?nc=1>

This has the potential to spell the demise of amateur radio and that is not an over-statement. Be warned!

Reply comments at the FCC can be made up to August 20th. Let your voice be heard!
Thanks W8TN

I just ran out of things to say so I will put a picture here



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About where the plane hit, I think

There will be more pictures next month